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# THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.  
"EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO.  
VOL. XIII. New Series—Vol. 1. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1897. NO. 14  
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00.

## THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.  
Honesty of purpose and conscientious performance of duty, carry one much further, in the long run, than flashes of genius even, unaccompanied by sincere motives. It is the plodding man of rugged honesty that sticks and stays and succeeds the most grandly.

The farms of the United States represent the greatest money value, and next to them come the railroads. There are one hundred and eighty thousand miles of railroads in this country and valued with their equipments at about a thousand million of dollars, says the New York Dispatch.

The great floods in the West recently have caused considerable loss of life and damage to property that perhaps cannot be estimated. North Carolinians have reason to feel grateful that their lots are cast in that part of the country which is free, by nature's provisions, from all such disasters as floods like those, severe cold, &c.

There are about as wide differences in the wealth of people connected with the national affairs at Washington as anywhere else. For instance, there are wives of many Congressmen who doubtless feel very poor beside Mrs. Charles F. Sprague, wife of Congressman Sprague of Boston. She owns twenty millions of dollars in her own name and is the queen of the "hub."

The friends of the Richmond Dispatch outside of Richmond congratulate that paper on its narrow, but safe escape from the flames a few days ago. For a long time the Dispatch has been regarded as a fine medium through which to learn North Carolina news, and the many readers and admirers in this State are glad it suffered so little loss.

It is really surprising how many people who ought to have better sense go into "connipions" over a thing like the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fight. It is a brutality that disgraces any community which tolerates it. Why two of God's creatures, endowed with great physical strength which they might use to better results for humanity, are willing to become the nucleus of so much immorality is more than many level-headed men can see.

There are more people daily studying the Bible now than ever before. The Bible has a power that no other book ever has had or ever can have, and men in high positions study it and teach its truth. Occasionally we find a man who thinks it a mark of greatness to leave the everyday, practical side of Christianity to others. Such men are blinding themselves and stumbling in their own shadows. To be really great one must be good, and no one can be really good in desire and practice of life who does not try to conform his life to the teachings of the Bible.

The Tennessee Centennial and International Exposition will be a big thing for Tennessee. The people of Nashville and two railroads have paid \$500,000 for preparing the grounds and buildings, having received no part of that amount from any outside county or town. And yet every State in the Union and every country in the world will be allowed exhibits in the grounds. The exposition marks the one-hundredth Anniversary of the admission of that State into the Federal Union, and patriotic motives are spurring the sons of the good old State to do much to demonstrate the growth and development of a hundred years.

FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS  
Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind.  
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## WHAT SHALL WE BE? IT DEPENDS ON THE YOUNG.

Some Rambling Thoughts.  
BY "NEMO."  
(Copyrighted.)

I reckon that intensity of love for one's country has always been most noteworthy among populations that have inhabited one region for ages. The "rocks and rills" of such a land all become, in time, the scenes of events that make them precious, and the hillsides cover the bones of unnumbered dead, whose names are still borne by the living. So the hearts of the people strike their roots into the soil, and become part of it; as even with the Greenlanders, whose dreary coasts hold the feelings of the inhabitants in such thrall, that absence means agony—even death.

I reckon also, it is easy of proof that the ancient people most firmly knit together in one, were those whose precarious existence was continued only by vigilance and conflict. I need not hesitate to cite the Spartans, since the mind of each well-informed reader will at once recall the hardening and unifying experiences of that little nation, whose members preferred to perish together rather than live separated. Similar proof is given by Rome in its early days, when it was being prepared by most strenuous experiences for the conquest of the world. National trials largely account for national strength.

Furthermore, the nearer people come to telling the deeds of heroes by word of mouth—as did Homer, the Old Testament writers, and the bards when books were few—the easier is it to keep alive the flames of hate, or the willing surrender of self to patriotic duty. When the flashing eyes of the father accentuate the story of his own deeds that he is pouring into the child's soul or when the "mother-knee" instruction tells why the child's father fought and died, then the father becomes to him "a living apostle," and his ancestors, "a cloud of witnesses."

Where are we now? Approaching the home-land. When long residence in one place, a perpetual state of conflict, and the handing down of war traditions by the fathers, are found to be strong inducements to patriotism, what hope is there for our country? In one hundred years, or, in other words, since the fathers of living aged men were boys, our population has grown from something over 8,000,000 to about 70,000,000. Of these, 17,000,000 have come from abroad since 1820, and the offspring of these fecund immigrants, who can number? Our swarming and restless population, ever moving forward into virgin territory has made the area of the United States increase from 325,000 square miles in 1776 to over 3,600,000 square miles in 1897. Our people of New England notwithstanding the remarkable history of the early settlement of that region, in many cases gathered their belongings together and settled along the southern boundaries of the Great Lakes and beyond. The group of Southern States with Virginia as a centre scattered their children North, South, East and West, breaking up almost entirely the ties of location. As a consequence of this mixing and moving and changing of inhabitants, it is practically impossible to find in America the never-dying affection for places that characterises more stable populations. Compared with older nations in Europe, we are but new-born infants. For instance, Buda Pesth in Hungary has recently celebrated its thousandth year of existence.

Bulwarked by oceans, free from European entanglements, placed apart by the fiat of the Almighty whose will sets our bounds, the millions of this country, without a known possible invader are beckoned forward into a new century. A nation whose population increases by leaps and bounds, is being subjected to none of the concentration that comes from attack and is realizing none of its benefits. We have more of subjugated territory behind us than of slain people, and the wars in our history are as nothing to the bulk of our population. What of military glory have we to start the blood of the modern boy tingling within him? The Revolution is a mere shadow to our myriad new comers; the war of 1812 even more so, except for Perry; the Mexican War one of more extension;

Chronic constipation is a painful, disagreeable and life-shortening difficulty. It deranges the system, causes sick headache, bad breath, and poisons the blood. It can be readily overcome by DeWitt's Little Early Risers. These little pills are great regulators.  
CAMP & HIGGS.

"I will wait on you now" said the polite attendant at Dr. Whitehead's Drug store as he handed out 5 boxes Dr. Dayid's Liver Pills for a dollar. Best on earth for all Bilious and Liver troubles.

the Rebellion, a battle between brothers to have been forgiven as soon as ended, if Lincoln had lived. Even admitting that the Titanic struggle was thrilling, what meaning has it for the twelve million emigrants who have landed and multiplied since then? Our heroes are mere names to them, and the point at issue something that they have never seen. The boy of other lands can know that the blood of his kinsmen has wet the earth to keep inviolate from conquest the spot on which he stands. Thrilled by their deeds he can swear to dare what they have dared and can sanctify himself to the task left by them. But our boy's father may not so much as know the smatterings of our language, and probably may understand still less of our history. The average American youth is therefore entirely deprived of personal touch with warriors who have fought for "Home and Native Land." What he learns of welfare and our country's battles must be from the unimpassioned pages of school histories.

Because some, even many, nations have reached their highest civilization by means of continuous battles and because the redolence of human blood is not on every page of our history there are not wanting those who can foresee no bright future for us, ordained, as we are, to isolation and peaceful development. They fear that our civilization will come tumbling around our ears some day because there is no over-mastering call to arms and to the subjugation of self that war entails. The fear is not ill-founded, neither is it unanswerable. The attempt will be made in this column to show that "peace hath its victories" and quietude its problems; that there are calls sharp and decisive, away from selfishness, and that whether the answer of our nation is to be satisfactory to all demands placed upon it, depends on the young people of the present day.

## Money in the Mouth.

Selected.  
"Did you notice that?" asked Dr. J. J. Clark, of this city, to me as we were riding on a Sutter street car.  
What he drew attention to was a Chinese passenger, who, when asked for his fare, took a nickel from the interior of his left ear and gave it to the conductor.

"It was with a view of drawing your attention to a dangerous practice that I asked you to look at that Chinaman," said the doctor, and then he nudged me to look in the direction of a well-dressed lady who had a moment before taken her seat and fumbling in her purse for her fare. She found the coin she was in search of and placed it between her lips while she closed her purse, and then taking the coin from her mouth held it in her hand until it was called for.

"I suppose you saw that lady place that coin between her lips?" said the doctor.

"Yes; what of that? I have seen that done a hundred times."  
"Did it ever occur to you that the practice is a dangerous one and the source of more disease than many people imagine? Does that lady know where the coin was before she placed it in her mouth? May it not have been in the ear of her Chinese laundryman or cook, or may it not have been in the pocket of some individual afflicted with a contagious disease? If it was in the ear of an individual who had an affection of that organ the microbes of the disease would cling to the coin, and when placed between the lips, if there should happen to be a cold sore there, or, as it often happens, a rupture of the tissue, the germs of disease would find lodgment there, and the person guilty of the practice would wonder how it happened that there was anything the matter with her. The microbes of contagious diseases will attach themselves to coin, and now you can see how easy it is to transmit disease not only by a cold sore or a lip that is what is commonly called 'cracked' but by inhalation."

"The practice," added the doctor, "with some vehemence, 'is not only dangerous, but it is positively disgusting, and I cannot understand why so many ladies are given to it.'"

## Something to Know.

It may be worth something to know that the very best medicine for restoring the tired out nervous system to a healthy vigor is Electric Bitters. This medicine is purely vegetable, acts by giving tone to the nerve centres in the stomach, gently stimulates the Liver and Kidneys, and aids these organs in throwing off impurities in the blood. Electric Bitters improves the appetite, aids digestion, and is pronounced by those who have tried it as the very best blood purifier and nerve tonic. Try it. Sold for 50c. or \$1.00 per bottle at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s Drug Store.

## AS IN CAROLINA. PATCHING AND DARNING. The Rights of a Husband.

Philadelphia Record.

The women in England and in this country have established most of the rights for which they have contended. The tyrant man has yielded his prerogatives; he has gracefully laid down his arms, and surrendered at discretion. What more will be required of him remains to be seen. The Courts, however, in several of our States have notions that they do not seem disposed to relinquish. In the old North State, for example, the Supreme Court has recently expressed its views on the rights of a husband. They are views that the more advanced wives will be apt to challenge. It seems that a husband in that State, renowned for its tar and whiskey stills, brought an action for damages against a druggist who, in violation of his express orders sold laudanum to his wife, in consequence of which she became a confirmed victim of the opium habit, by reason whereof the husband lost her services and companionship. The Supreme Court held that the action was well founded, and thus stated its reasons:

"A married woman still owes to her husband, notwithstanding her greatly improved legal status, the duty of companionship, and of rendering all such services in his house as her relations of wife and mother require of her. The husband, as a matter of law, is entitled to her time, her wages, her earnings and the product of her labor, skill and industry. He may contract to furnish her services to others, and may sue for them, or for their loss, in her own name. And it seems to be a most reasonable proposition of law that whoever willfully joins with a married woman in doing an act which deprives her husband of her services and of her companionship, is liable to the husband in damages for his conduct. And the defendants owed the plaintiff the legal duty not to sell to his wife opium in the form of large quantities of laudanum as a beverage, knowing that she was, by using them, destroying her mind and body, and thereby causing loss to the husband. The defendants and the wife joined in going acts injurious to the rights of the husband. From the facts stated in the complaint the defendants were just as responsible as if they had forced her to take the drug, for they had their own part in forming the habit in her, and then continued the sale of it to her after she had no power to control herself and resist the thirst; and that, too, after the repeated warnings and protests of the husband. There is no difference between the principle involved in this action and the principle upon which a husband can recover from a third person damages for assault and battery upon his wife."

What say the Colonial Dames and the Daughters of the Revolution to this statement of the relations of man and wife? What pride can they take in the exploits of their ancestors when such servitude to their descendants in any part of this land of freedom is still their unhappy lot? According to the Supreme Court of North Carolina, the husband is not only entitled to the services of his wife, but "he may contract to furnish her services to others." Thus after having darned his stockings and put patches on his breeches, the husband may contract to furnish his wife's services to his neighbor, for the purpose of putting his stockings and breeches in similar good condition. Can a principle of law like this exist, even in North Carolina, without arousing the special wonder of the sisterhood everywhere, and without a special effort being made to expunge and extirpate it from the jurisprudence of every part of our common country?

A hacking cough is not only annoying to others, but is dangerous to the person who has it. One Minute Cough Cure will quickly put an end to it.  
CAMP & HIGGS.

## Obeying Orders.

There was a new Irish porter at the hotel, and one of the guests told him he wanted to be called at six. Promptly at that hour there was a loud rap at the door and a shout, "I have a message for you." The guest jumped out of bed, and opening the door, received a large envelope. This he hastily tore open and read on a slip of paper inside, "Please get up at once."

Watch the crowd at Whitehead's Drug store buying Dixie Nerve and Bone Liment. Best on earth for Pains, Strains, Rheumatism and everything where a first class Liment is required. For man and beast.

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N. B. JOSEY,  
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## Wealth and Ambition.

Selected.

The desire to be wealthy is natural to all men, and if it were not a component part of human nature, mankind would still be groping in the first stages of civilization. This desire creates the ambition for engaging in enterprises which, while they enrich the promoters, are of common benefit to all men. Every extension of commerce, every industrial enterprise and every work speculative in its character originates in the desire to increase fortune and add to the power its possession gives.

In this age of wealth-getting, its acquisition has come to be looked upon as the sum total of all earthly desires, as the one thing that ambition should strive for and as the full measure of its reward. But ambition, to be noble and of use to the world, must aim higher than the acquisition of wealth. Riches alone can not bring honor, power and the grateful remembrance of fellowmen. Every name in history that appeals to sentiment, gratitude or the reverence of mankind gained eminence in fields of endeavor far removed from the avenues of wealth-seeking. Croesus lives in history because of the wealth he possessed, but around his memory there is clustered no virtue, no attribute of manhood, of inherent worth or of nobility of character and no lesson that can be drawn from his life other than monetary. Every name that adorns literature, the arts and the sciences is there by virtue of the services they have rendered in their respective fields, and in all the factor of wealth seldom appears. Prof. Agassiz expressed the true spirit of ambition well-directed when he said that he had no time to fritter away in making money. Ambition that is actuated by the sordid motive of acquiring wealth for the pleasure it gives, or is supposed to give, has no value to mankind, nor can it bring happiness or contentment to the one who centers his desires on attaining it.

Ambition that is noble and generous and which aims to accomplish something that will reflect honor and a good purpose fulfilled, has little regard for riches, or the vulgar adulation it brings. Whatever is done well conscientiously and with unselfish motives is always rewarded with a sufficiency, and whatever exceeds that is a temptation to misuse the whole.

## Odd Bits of News.

Selected.

Over 1,000,000 cat skins are used every year in the fur trade.  
The Maine bear is fast becoming a tradition. There is talk of abolishing the \$5 bounty on bear.  
A Philadelphia woman has sued her heartless husband for divorce because he has forbidden her to eat pie.

Bangkok, the capital of Siam, is a floating city, containing 70,000 houses, each of which floats on a raft of bamboo.

A pearl that was afterwards sold to a jeweler for \$75 was found in the gizzard of a turkey in London recently.

The London school board forbidding collections in schools was suspended in order to allow subscriptions to the Indian famine fund.

It is said that a Missouri dealer who recently shipped several hundred mules to Johannesburg, South Africa, realized \$250 to \$300 each on them.

Denmark's foreign egg trade has grown to tremendous size, mainly with England. Twenty years ago the annual Danish export of eggs was 600,000, now it is reckoned at 111,000,000.

Many political speakers, clergymen, singers and others who use the voice excessively, rely upon One Minute Cough Cure to prevent huskiness and laryngitis. Its value as a preventive is only equalled by its power to afford instantaneous relief. CAMP & HIGGS.

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English Spavin Liment removes all Hard, Soft or Calloused Lumps and Clemishes from horses. Blood Spavin Surbs, Splints, Sweeney, Ring worm tites, Sprains, and Swollen Throats, Coughs, Etc. Save 50 by use of one bottle. Warranted the most wonderful Blemish Cure ever known. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Druggists, Scotland Neck, N. C. 101 ly.

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Sold by E. T. Whitehead and Co., Druggists, Scotland Neck, N. C.

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## Sale of Valuable Land.

By virtue of the power vested in me by the last will and testament of the late P. Eliza Pittman, I will on Monday the 6th day of April 1897, expose to public sale to the highest bidder for cash, at the court house door in the town of Halifax, that tract or parcel of land situated in the county of Halifax and known as the "Merritt tract," bounded on the north by Beech Swamp; the lands of O. C. Stallings on the south and east, and on the west by the tract of land of P. Eliza Pittman known as the 93 acre tract; containing one hundred acres more or less.  
This 16th day of Feb. 1897.  
W. J. BURGESS,  
Executor of P. Eliza Pittman,  
225 6t